

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-10, 12-21, 23-25, and 27-46 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. The primary reason for allowance of claim 1, is that the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest an apparatus for producing alcohol comprising a grinding station comprising a separator and a feeder, the separator configured to separate part of seed coat portions and the feeder is configured to feed the separated dry seed coats directly to a dryer where they function as a carrier medium for vinasse.
4. Similarly, the primary reason for allowance of claim 41 (renumbered claim 38), is that the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a process for producing alcohol comprising the step of feeding the seed coat portions after grinding and separating steps to a dryer where they serve as carrier material for the vinasse to be dried in the dryer.
5. Similarly, the primary reason for allowance of claim 42 (renumbered claim 39), is that the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest an apparatus for producing alcohol comprising feeding means for feeding dry seed coat portions from the grinding means to the dryer where the dry seed coat portions serve as a carrier medium for vinasse.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIELLE HENKEL whose telephone number is (571)270-5505. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur: 11am-8pm, Alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Marcheschi can be reached on 571-272-1374. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/DANIELLE HENKEL/
Examiner, Art Unit 1775

/William H. Beisner/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1775